

## THIRD EDITION

### TO-DAY'S WASHINGTON NEWS.

#### Special Despatches to Evening Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, December 9.

**Movements of Mrs. General Grant.**  
The despatch boat *Maria* is now at the Sixth street wharf, waiting to take Mrs. General Grant to City Point, on a visit to her husband.

**Arrival of Prisoners.**  
Up to the present time five thousand of the prisoners paroled at Savannah have arrived at Annapolis, all of whom have been mustered, and are now receiving their pay from the paymasters sent there for that purpose.

#### News from Sherman.

It is believed by the officers engaged in mastering the men, that Sherman's movements have interfered with the exchange.

#### Capture of a Pirate.

The Navy Department has received a despatch from Rear-Admiral Porter, reporting the capture and arrival at Norfolk of the Confederate steamer *Armstrong*. She is a beautiful and fast vessel, of 600 tons measurement, and was captured by the *Cuyler* and *Gilguy*, on the 4th instant.

The *Armstrong* had a cargo of 450 bales of cotton, but threw a portion overboard during the chase.

#### Capture of Rebel Cavalry.

Ten of Mosely's men, who were captured in the Luray valley on the 3d instant, were sent in from Harper's Ferry to-day and committed to the Old Capitol.

#### THE CUMBERLAND RIVER UNOBSERVED.

St. Louis, December 8.—The *Democrat's* Paducah special despatch of the 7th, says that all the stories about disasters on the Cumberland River are wholly untrue. The river is clear and unobstructed to Clarksville, to which point the transports run without convoy. From Clarksville to Nashville they are conveyed by gunboats, being several Rebel batteries between the two points.

#### THE CASE OF CAPTAIN BURLEIGH.

Toronto, December 8.—In the Lake Erie case to-day the Rebel Burleigh applied for a month's postponement to obtain evidence from Richmond. A decision will be given to-morrow.

On her arrival at Collingwood, the steamer *Georgian* was searched, but nothing contraband was found on her.

#### FIRE.

WATERBURY, Connecticut, December 9.—The Waterbury Clock Company's case factory was destroyed by fire early this morning. The loss is about \$20,000, with an insurance of \$12,000.

CINCINNATI, December 9.—Gould, Pease & Co.'s cotton factory was burned last night. The loss in cotton was 100,000, partially insured.

#### CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, December 9.—Neither House is in session to-day, both having adjourned until Monday next.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Arrival of the United States Transport "Trade Wind."

#### THE EXPEDITION UP BROAD RIVER.

Our Forces Land and Drive the Enemy Five Miles.

#### A DETERMINED ACTION AT HONEY HILL.

Seven Hours Fighting.

GALLANT CONDUCT OF THE TROOPS.

Enemy Strongly Intrenched.

INTERESTING DETAILS.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., December 4.—On Tuesday morning last (November 29), shortly after midnight, a force, taken from several points in the department, left Hilton Head on transports for an expedition up Broad river. A sufficient number of troops was left at all the posts for their defense; and, in addition to the regular forces, the citizens of this post organized themselves for guard duty, and to aid in the protection of the post should any emergency arise.

#### THE FORCE.

It would be improper for me to give the exact composition of the force in the expedition, and I shall only allude by name to such regiments as casualties have occurred in them. These are, in whole or in part, the 157th, 127th, 144th, and 55th New York, the 28th Ohio, the 45th and 55th Massachusetts Infantry, and a portion of the 1st Massachusetts Cavalry, the 34th, 56th, and 102d United States Colored Troops, and batteries B and H of the 3d New York Artillery.

#### CO-OPERATION OF THE NAVY.

The Navy also co-operated, sending several gunboats to guard the expedition, and to our land forces the Naval Battery, and a force of marines and sailors acting as infantry.

#### COMMANDING OFFICERS.

Brigadier-General J. P. Hatch had command of the land forces. Brigadier-General E. E. Porter commanded one brigade, and Colonel Hartwell, 55th Massachusetts, another. Major-General Foster accompanied the expedition to the landing, and had general direction of the operations, but was prevented from going into the field by his lameness, occasioned by the wound he received in Mexico. Admiral Dahlgren was present in person with the navy.

#### THE LANDING.

We arrived at Boy's Point a little after day-light, and the transports dropped anchor. The troops landed enthusiastically. A fog which had settled over the country gradually lifted, giving us a full view up and down the river, revealing plantation houses nestled among the foliage and peasant moss of the live oak and pine. On the mainland picket fires were still burning, and the sound of musketry was heard from the shore.

#### LANDING OF THE NAVAL BRIGADE.

The Naval Brigade had landed before us, and was reconnoitering about the neighborhood in search of information.

The Naval Brigade was offered as follows:—Commander George Henry Preble in command. Lieutenant O'Keefe, of the *Swampscott*, commanding the 1st Company of Infantry. Lieutenant Whitehead, of the *Passaic*, commanding the 2d Company.

Marine Corps—First Lieutenant G. G. Stoddard, of the *New Hampshire*; Adjutant J. M. Stanley, of the *Philadelphia*.

The following were the staff of Commander Preble:—Lieutenant-Commander A. F. Crossman, of the *Hatchcock*, Adjutant.

Chief of Staff, of the *Philadelphia*, Adjutant.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Wm. J. Bowditch, of the *Philadelphia*.

Acting Assistant Surgeon R. M. Gerson, of the *Norfolk Packet*.

Acting Assistant Surgeon H. L. Gibbs, of the *Norfolk Packet*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster D. A. Smith, of the *Norfolk Packet*.

T. H. Fraser, of the *Hatchcock*, Clerk to the Adjutant.

The following officers were also with the brigade:—Lieutenant-Commanding E. O. Matthews, of the Naval Battery.

Lieutenant G. W. Hayward, of the Naval Battery.

Acting Master George Cabes, of the *St. Louis*.

Acting Ensign M. J. Daley, of the *Swampscott*.

Acting Ensign Charles Boyer, of the *South Carolina*.

Acting Ensign J. A. Edgar, of the Naval Battery.

Acting Master's Mate William Sant, of the *Camden*.

Acting Master's Mate A. F. Tate, of the *Catalpa*.

THE ADVANCE.—THE FIRST DAY'S OPERATIONS.

As soon as a sufficient number of troops had landed, General Hatch sent the 3d United States Colored Troops, Colonel George W. Baird, and the Naval Brigade, up the road to strike into the country. They proceeded to the first cross-roads about noon, and, later in the day, were joined by other regiments. When an advance was made up the main road to the right several miles, a halt was made at another cross-roads, near the Coosawatchie road, at dark, the Naval Brigade, led by Commander Preble, in the advance.

The troops rested here for a few minutes, improving the time to prepare their evening coffee, at the expense of a ration or so of Rebel rations, and were then ordered back to the cross-roads. There they joined a column from the landing, under General Porter, and turning to the left of the said road, marched several miles to the southwest. In the march up the Coosawatchie road there was some skirmishing with the pickets along nearly the whole route; but in the general direction our column was only fired on once.

About two miles west from the cross-roads where the first halt was made was another corner, where the Grahamville road crossed the main road. We were marching upon it. In the corner there is a church. Near the enemy's cavalry picket discharged their guns at our cavalry in advance, and then fled. After proceeding some miles up that road our whole force returned to the church and encamped for the night.

The long marching had made the soldiers weary, and some who had eaten nothing since noon preferred sleep to food, and laid down suppers, but satisfied.

#### ADVANCE ON THE ENEMY.

At about 7 o'clock in the morning, just as our column was being formed for another advance, a message came from Captain George R. Hurlbert, commanding the advance cavalry, that the enemy were advancing down the Grahamville road in force, with cavalry, infantry, and artillery. Soon after the message was received, two twelve-pounders, placed in the road, upon our skirmishers, consisting of the 127th New York, Colonel Gurney. Several regiments and some artillery were ordered on up the road, and General Hatch and Porter both proceeding with the advance.

#### OUR TROOPS MOVE.

On the left of the road, for a quarter of a mile or so, were dense woods, and next a small cotton field, bounded by a creek, beyond which were again thick woods, with a heavy undergrowth. On the right of the road was a skirting of trees, with a fence and two ditches, and beyond a wide field, reaching to the creek. General Hatch and Porter personally superintended the disposition of the infantry and artillery in the two fields and in the road, the 127th still skirmishing through the woods and up the road beyond the creek.

While the staffs of the two Generals were in a group in the road, and just as both of the latter had jumped their horses over the ditch, a solid shot—the first one fired—came ricocheting down the road and struck among them. The shot nearly annihilated a horse's leg.

#### ARTILLERY IN POSITION.

Our artillery soon got into position, under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, Chief of Artillery of the department. Battery B, 3d New York Artillery, opened on the Rebel battery with several pieces and the 127th New York, supported by the 144th New York, Colonel Lewis, and the 3d United States Colored Troops. Colonel Baird, also kept up a fire on the enemy, and soon caused the whole force to retreat, which they did in rather poor order.

#### THE LOSERS IN THE WOODS.

Our loss in going through the woods after crossing the creek was considerable. Lieutenant-Colonel Geary, of the 3d United States Colored Troops, was the first man wounded in this his regiment's first fight. He was struck by a grape shot, which doubled up his side and caused a contusion of the groin. He was very indignant at being wounded so early in the engagement. Captain Porter, of the 144th, had a leg shattered, but continued cheering his men while his leg was being temporarily bandaged. Private Van Buren, of his company, had both legs shattered and mangled above the knees by a discharge of grape.

#### THE ENEMY TRIES FIRE.

On the right of the road, a little further on, was a field covered with dry grass, which the Rebels set on fire, partly, it was suspected, with designs on our caissons, as we advanced. Some of the fighting occurred here, our men advancing through fire and smoke and burning coils.

#### THE ENEMY'S POSITION.

The Honey Hill battery was located just beyond the turn in the road, with a marshy field between and a small run, crossed by a bridge. The battery had four embrasures, each containing a gun, as nearly as the smoke would permit of ascertaining. It was on the brow of a small hill, with an outlook in front and flanking breast-works.

#### DISPOSITION OF THE ENEMY.

The Rebel forces were quickly disposed in these works, with a heavy line of skirmishers on each flank, a large force of infantry in the front and the works in the center, and a body in the rear as a reserve. The Rebel flanks had thick woods for cover, while our whole line, from the formation of the ground, was necessarily much more exposed.

#### THE ACTION.

The 3d United States Colored troops were ordered to charge the Rebel fort as soon as we had got into position at the head of the road. They attempted, but got stuck in the marsh, which they found impassable at the point of their assault, and a galling fire of grape, canister, and musketry being opened on them, they were forced to retire.

The 3d United States Colored troops also essayed an assault, but could not get near enough to produce any effect upon it. These regiments, however, only fell back to the line of battle, where they remained throughout the entire fight.

Our front, as gradually established, reached to the right and left about half a mile—for a considerable portion of the way along a rough path or road, and with the centre in the turn of the main road. Here a Lieutenant-Colonel Ames brought up all the artillery that could be moved, and a mortar and a long kept up a constant and effective fire on the Rebel works and lines. He personally superintended the firing, and excepted general administration by his adjutant, a private.

The 55th Massachusetts (colored) went into the fight on the right of the brigade, commanded by Colonel Hartwell. I did not note the time, but it was in the heat of the action, when the brigade had got separated by the extreme front, and to different was points, and all that was left of it on the spot where it was first located was a mere detachment. The fire became very hot, but still the regiment did not waver—the line merely quivered.

Captain Gurney, of General Foster's staff, whose gallantry was conspicuous all day, rode up just as Colonel Hartwell was wounded in the hand, and advised him to retire, but the Colonel declined, and was anxious to charge the works. Captain Gurney declined to give the order, but rather favored the movement, the bullets all this time flying like hail. Colonel Hartwell gave the order, the colors came to the extreme front, when the Colonel shouted, "Follow your colors!" and then led the way himself, and marched off obliquely, in column by division.

Colonel Hartwell was mortally wounded, and was Captain Gurney's Adjutant-General. Just as they reached the marsh in front of the turn in the road, and within a short distance of the Rebel works, brave Colonel Hartwell's horse, while struggling through the marsh, was killed by a discharge of canister. The Colonel was wounded at the same time, and attempted to jump from his horse; but the animal fell on him, pressing him into the mud.

At the time he was lying at the side of the column and the men pressed on past. But as they passed the fort they met a murderous fire of grape, canister, and bullets at short range. As the numbers of the advance were thinned, the few who survived began to waver, and finally the regiment retired. In retiring, Lieutenant Ellsworth, with a few men, extricated the Colonel from his perilous position after much delay and by cutting the saddle from his horse.

In carrying him away he was again wounded in the side, and advised Lieutenant Ellsworth to leave him behind; but the Lieutenant and a few men brought him from the field without further injury, and he will probably survive. He is now in the hospital at Annapolis.

The 127th New York were at this time on the left of the road, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Woodford, who, at his own request, was temporarily reassigned to the command of the regiment. He led the regiment across the road to co-operate with the 55th, and got very near the fort, but was obliged finally to retire. Considering that they had been in the front all day, their behavior was splendid. At the time of their first advance Colonel Gurney was on the right of the road, in the extreme front, in command of a skirmish line, where he displayed much gallantry.

The 55th Massachusetts, heroes of all the hard fights that have occurred in the department since their arrival here, were too much scattered in this battle to do full justice to their services. Only two companies went into the fight at first, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hopper. They were posted on the left. Subsequently they were joined by four more companies, who were left on duty in the rear.

The 25th Ohio soon after the commencement of the engagement were sent to the right, where they swung around and fought on a line nearly perpendicular to our main line. A portion of the 55th Massachusetts were with them. One of two charges were essayed, but were unsuccessful; but the front was maintained there throughout the afternoon. The 25th had the largest loss of all the regiments.

#### THE COLORED TROOPS.

The colored troops fought well throughout the day. There was probably a greater proportion of striaghts than among the white troops. They got a single regiment into the fight. The 55th, 32d, 102d, 54th, and 34th were all at the front, and kept in line more coolly than one would suppose. There was no shrinking among any troops, white or black, and every regiment in the fight deserves praise.

Counter charges were made at various times during the fight by the enemy, but our infantry and artillery moved them down, and they did not at any time get very near our line. When ever a charge of our men was repulsed, the Rebels would flock out of their works, whooping like Indians; but Ames' guns and the terrible volleys of our infantry would soon send them back.

#### INCIDENTS.

One skirmisher, who was lying down in the extreme front, rose up to light his pipe. The latter was in his mouth, while he held a match in his right hand and the match box in the other. A bullet, passing in front of him, killed him instantly, and his body lay there for some time, the pipe still in his mouth, and the fingers clutching the match box.

Colonel Pierce, a volunteer on General Hatch's staff, while at the front, remarked that he would go back to where the Rebels were turning our left, and see how strong they were. He was gone but a moment and returned with his coat torn and a wound on the leg, where a bullet had grazed it.

Lieutenant-Colonel Bennett, Captain Silva, Lieutenants McMartin and Van Winkle, Captain Jewett, Surgeon Barton, and in fact all the staff officers, were conspicuous for their bravery, and most efficient in the discharge of their duties. Fortunately and singularly, none of them were hit.

Lieutenant Colonel Woodford, of the 127th, had the bridge of his leg just grazed by a Minie ball, but received no other injury.

Colonels Gurney, Baird and Lewis, though much exposed, were not hit.

#### THE MOVEMENT ON THE COOSAWATCHIE ROAD.

During the forenoon of Wednesday, a force under command of Major J. Anderson, of General Foster's staff, went up the Coosawatchie road, the same first taken by our advance on the afternoon of Tuesday. They proceeded further than that force did, when the major with two companies and a detachment of the Naval Brigade, was suddenly fired on by a battery a short distance beyond the cross-roads.

Ensign G. C. Niel, Superintendent of armed transports, was with Major Anderson, and they were almost under the muzzles of the guns when they discovered them by being fired on. They withdrew because they found, by despatches from headquarters, that nothing could be gained by advancing.

#### THE PRESENT POSITION OF OUR FORCES.

General Foster finding the enemy's position at Honey Hill too strong to be easily taken, and not offering much chance, considering the object of the expedition, to warrant a continuance of the engagement, withdrew to a strong position on the Savannah road, from which he will be able to conduct future operations.—*New York Herald*.

#### GEN. SHERMAN'S GREAT EXPEDITION.

HE IS NEAR SAVANNAH.

#### KILPATRICK FIGHTS AGAIN.

Report that he was Wounded.

#### SHERMAN "MOVING WITH MEASURED PACE."

ON THE WILD ALTAMAHA.

#### UNION ACCOUNTS.

McC. Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

#### IMPORTANT FROM SHERMAN.

Three deserters from Savannah arrived at Fort Point on the 30th ult. They report that Sherman is advancing on Savannah in three columns, one by way of Millen, one between the Ogeechee and Ocmulgee rivers, and the other across the Savannah river at Santee Ferry, Savannah is above. He has flanked Macon, but did not stop to occupy it. He had whipped Wayne's and Cobb's militia at Ogeechee Bridge, driving them in every direction.—*Port Royal Herald*, last inst.

#### OPINIONS ABOUT SHERMAN.

Washington, December 9.—General Logan gives it as his opinion, that the slow progress of General Sherman is the very best evidence of his entire safety and success. It was his programme to make frequent halts to rest his men, while detachments should scour the country to destroy roads, bridges, and Rebel supplies. Had he encountered any serious opposition he would have reached the coast before this.

#### LATEST REBEL REPORTS.

ANOTHER THEORY ON DECEMBER 4.—GENERAL KILPATRICK REPORTED WOUNDED.

From the *Richmond Engineer*, December 6.

We learn that an official telegram received last night states that General Wheeler has inflicted another severe blow upon the enemy. The locality of the fight is not given, for sufficient reasons. It occurred last Sunday morning. One corps of the enemy and Kilpatrick's cavalry attacked Wheeler in a strong position. They came up boldly to the attack, and made several charges, all of which were repulsed by Wheeler's men, who, though largely outnumbered, maintained their ground and raked down the foe. The despatch states that the enemy lost heavily. It was reported that General Kilpatrick was wounded.

#### THE SITUATION OF THE ARMY ON DECEMBER 1.

From the *Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel*, December 2.

The situation, as indicated for Sherman, places him between the Ogeechee and Savannah rivers, in the neighborhood of Millen, the junction of the road from Augusta with the road from Savannah. Millen is seventy-nine miles from Savannah and fifty-three from Augusta. Sherman's situation is a very difficult one for a forward movement in any direction.

He seems rather to have thrown himself out of the road to any point south of Savannah. But if he marches on that city, or attempts to cross the Savannah river, and strike for Beaufort, he will encounter difficulties which we can scarcely suppose he would voluntarily confront. His road, through marshes, and easy of obstruction.

The Savannah river is ours, and the ferries are guarded. Whether he will attempt to break through these obstacles, or encounter others scarcely less formidable, it may be further south, this week will probably determine. Meanwhile we are picking up his men and wearing out his army.

#### SHERMAN REACHES MILLEN DECEMBER 2.

From the *Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel*, December 3.

The reports that we have from below state that the head of Sherman's main column reached Millen to-day.

The Charleston papers, however, have news by wire from Savannah. The advices from that direction say that after Sherman's advance was driven back on Tuesday, our scouts report Sherman's main body turned, and was moving off precipitately in the direction of Beaufort. A large column is also moving in the direction of Darien. Our forces are following them up closely, and it is hoped will be able to intercept and capture a large number before reaching the coast.

It is thought that Sherman will attempt to cross the Savannah river at Demers Ferry. The roads below Millen have been blockaded.

#### THE ARMY CONCENTRATED ON DECEMBER 5 AND MARCHING SOUTHWEST OF MILLEN.

From the *Richmond World*, December 6.

We have reason to believe, from all we have heard, that Sherman's army has united, and is marching with measured pace towards the Atlantic coast, south or southwest of Millen. We also have reason to anticipate a battle at some point south or southwest of Savannah ere the close of the present week.

#### The Latest.

The *Examiner* continues to admit that Sherman may reach the sea-coast. If he does so, the fleet will find him and the remnant of his army in the neighborhood of Beaufort, where "the wild Altamaha murmurs to their woe."

#### SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.

REPORTS FROM THE RICHMOND PAPERS.

The *Augusta Sentinel* says that the head of Sherman's column reached Millen on the 24th of December—six days ago!

The *Richmond papers* of the 6th inst., received in this city, state that Sherman is approaching the coast; but they employ the usual reticence as to the exact whereabouts of his army.

In discussing his movements, however, they unintentionally let out the fact that the army of Sherman is moving towards the coast somewhere between the Savannah and Ogeechee rivers. The latter crosses into the Ogeechee sound, where there is an excellent harbor, and only a distance of about fifteen miles south of the city of Savannah.

If the Rebel iron-clads on the Savannah river are sufficiently formidable to prevent General Sherman's crossing it, he may march directly for Ogeechee sound, the possession of which is equivalent to the fall of Savannah.

The distance from Millen, where the Savannah papers report him to have been on the 24th instant, is about eighty miles. If he has had an uninterrupted march since, and has moved at the usual rate of fifteen miles per day, he must have been employed at the coast before this.—*Washington Republican*.

#### REBELS ON THE JAMES RIVER.

A Desperate Attack by the Crew of the "Florida"—One Man Killed and Several Wounded—Capture of a Steamer—Captain Sawtelle in Troop—He is Afterwards Released.

NORFOLK, Va., December 6, 4 P. M.—On Monday evening the tug-boat *Little Freeman*, having a horse in tow, started from Norfolk, bound for Dutch Gap.

Captain George P. Sawtelle, Superintendent of Prison Labor, and Lieutenant Eugene Dodge, 20th New York Cavalry, were the officers in charge.

As they went well into the *Freeman* reached Smith's Point, about twenty miles above Newport News; it then became so dark that it was impossible to proceed further, until daylight came. The *Freeman* anchored for the night within a short distance of a schooner, which was also detained by the darkness.

The proper guards were posted, and the officers went on shore to guard retired at eleven o'clock P. M. One of the guards observed some thing approaching, resembling a boat, and halted it, and in place of a verbal answer, came a shower of bullets. The guard fired immediately, and defended themselves, the enemy were about. Captain Sawtelle and Lieutenant Dodge rushed out only to find confronting them armed Rebels, with revolvers already cocked, and drawn sares.

Captain Sawtelle and Lieutenant Dodge were immediately seized, and resistance was impossible, as the slightest attempt to defend themselves would have been death.

The Rebels then took their prisoners on board of the *Freeman* and secured them in the hold, by fastening down the hatches. Previous to their being confined, they relieved Captain Sawtelle of his gold watch and about \$200 he was unable to hide.

Lieutenant Dodge was more lucky; he managed to rip the binding of his pantaloons and hide his money. During the imprisonment, Captain Sawtelle learned that the schooner which lay near them was captured also, and burnt during the night. She was loaded with sugar's stores.

Captain Sawtelle's entire party were then confined, as above stated, and remained in confinement until yesterday morning, when the steamer *Florida* came along and relieved their feet and hands.

The tug-boat *Little Freeman*, Captain Smith, and mate, David Aspell, both of whom were rebbed, Aspell was shot through the arm.

The *Freeman* was taken off and scuttled. Two of the colored soldiers were killed.

Captain Sawtelle, Lieutenant Dodge, and three others were paroled by the captain who belongs to the Confederate States navy; his name was able to learn, though they had his lieutenant were dressed in the Confederate States uniform, and were rather polite for Rebels; the men were hard-looking, and had little mercy for their prisoners.

The Rebels swore that they would have satisfaction for the *Florida*, as they belonged to her, and said they intended lighting up the James river, every night, with army vessels which lay there, until enough to get into their clutches.

We hope this gang of Rebels who infest Smith's Point will receive a visit from some source which will give them all the satisfaction they desire, and bring them to grief.—*Old Dominion*.